liposome composition which [characterized by]:

(a) is composed of vesicle-forming lipids including an amphipathic vesicle-forming lipid derivatized with a hydrophilic biocompatible polymer of a size and in a molar amount effective to extend liposome blood circulation time, measured 24 hours after said injection, severalfold and over that achievable in the absence of the hydrophilic polymer,

[(b) liposomes having a selected mean particle diameter in the size range between about 0.07-0.20 microns,]

[(c) containing] (b) contains in liposome-entrapped form, a therapeutic compound active against the pathogen causing the infection, and

[(d) ability] (c) is able to accumulate selectively in the infected tissue following parenteral administration, thereby to concentrate liposome-entrapped drug at the infection site.

14. (Amended) A method of preparing [an antimicrobial] a therapeutic agent for localization in an infected region of tissue, when the agent is administered by parenteral injection, comprising

entrapping the agent in liposomes which [are characterized by]:

(a) are composed of vesicle-forming lipids including an amphipathic vesicle-forming lipid derivatized with a hydrophilic biocompatible polymer of a size and in a molar amount effective to extend liposome blood circulation time, measured 24 hours after said injection, severalfold and over that achievable in the absence of the hydrophilic polymer,

([b) liposomes having a selected mean particle diameter in the size range between about 0.07-0.20 microns,]

[(c) containing] (b) contain in liposome-entrapped form, a therapeutic compound effective against the source of the infection[.] ; and

[(d) ability] (c) are able to accumulate selectively in the infected tissue following parenteral administration, thereby to

~~concentrate liposome-entrapped drug at the infection site.~~

--~~17~~. The composition of claim ~~9~~, wherein the therapeutic compound is an agent selected from the group consisting of antibacterial agents, antiviral agents and antifungal agents.

~~18~~. The composition of claim ~~17~~, wherein the antibacterial agent is a quinolone antibiotic.

~~19~~. The method of claim ~~14~~, wherein the therapeutic compound is an agent selected from the group consisting of antibacterial agents, antiviral agents and antifungal agents.

~~20~~. The method of claim ~~19~~, wherein the antibacterial agent is a quinolone antibiotic.--

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request consideration and entry of the claim amendments before prosecution.

I. Amendments

Claims 9 and 14 have been amended to remove the liposome size restriction. Support for this amendment finds basis in the application on, for example, page 23, where liposomes having a size of between 0.1-10 microns are disclosed. On page 23, lines 27-30 states that liposomal compositions above or below this size range (referring to a preferred size range of 0.07-0.2 microns) may be effective in delivering drugs to an infected region.

Support for new claims 17-20 can be found on page 39, lines 9-25, with specific support of the quinolone antibiotic at line 13.

Accordingly, no new matter is added by these amendments.

If in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference